

Father Laskowski will preach University of Notre Dame Lenten Adoration, Monday
the Wednesday night Lenten Religious Bulletin through Friday, 12:30--5:00,
series, beginning Feb. 14. February 8, 1951 Basement chapel.

A Communique From The O. M. I.

In the Office of Military Information you have two priests who have had wide experience in dealing with war-time problems. Father Stogman was connected with the Military Ordinariate during World War II and Father Woodward served as chaplain with high rank with the Atlantic Seaboard Command. From time to time general information on your problems will be channeled through the Bulletin to you. For example:

Why Study To Be A Soldier?

What's the use of studying now, when in a year I may be fighting for my life on some battlefield? What good is book learning anyway? Let's drink and be merry. Let's throw fire crackers and make a general nuisance of ourselves in the halls.

A musician might argue: I may lose an arm next year, so why continue with my practicing. An orator: I may lose my voice, so why continue with public speaking. An athlete: I may break my leg, so why keep in shape. All living, all action is accompanied by hazards. To refuse to act because of hazards is to seek refuge in cowardice and to die of staleness and uselessness.

You say the future is uncertain. Granted. So it has always been. But we must accept it as a fact of human existence, that the future is hidden from our eyes. This is one fact.

Another fact is: the past is beyond recall. We do not have an eternity to go on living and retrieving lost opportunities. Worry over what might come to pass is senseless, as senseless as pining over what might have been. Make a virtue of necessity. Live and work in the present.

Here at Notre Dame you have opportunity for self-improvement, for cultivation of your mind, refinement of taste, acquisition of personal powers and habits that will be your assets for a lifetime. You can throw these away and give yourself over to pleasantries and trivialities, but then you become merely pleasant and trivial persons.

Only the present belongs to us. Unless we seize it, we seize nothing. Unless we improve it, we make no improvement at all. Unless we attend to the task at hand, here and now, we will be unfitted for the work of the future, whatever it may be.

We have seen enough of the past and are sufficiently acquainted with the present to predict, that, let the future bring what it may, even the collapse of civilization itself, there will be need for good artisans, better technicians, clearer thinkers and more clever-minded leaders. But the greatest need of all, now as always, is for men of strong character, high intellectual attainment and deep religious faith.

How To Make The Way Of The Cross.

Making the Way of the Cross should not be restricted to Lent, although during Lent it is most appropriate. Benedict XIV declared that the Way of the Cross is an effective means of leading sinners to virtue, of stirring the lukewarm, of perfecting the just.

No vocal prayer is required, but only meditation on the Passion of Our Lord. Visit the stations in their order, actually moving from one to another, pausing and reflecting on the thoughts each station suggests. A plenary indulgence may be gained each time the Stations are made. Another plenary indulgence if Communion is received the same day.

Prayers: Mrs. Marie Wolin, a mother of three small children, who underwent a very critical operation. 2 very special intentions.